

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 LUSAKA 01178 300905Z
ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
-----300906Z 078520 /12

P R 291535Z APR 77 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5547
INFO AMCONSUL CAPETOWN
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM
AMEMBASSY GABORONE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L LUSAKA 1178

EXDIS

CAPETOWN FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SREF PFOR ZA RH
SUBJECT: ASSISTANCE FOR RHODESIAN CHILDREN

REF: LUSAKA 1130 (NOTAL)

1. AS A FOLLOW UP TO HIS REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE FOR RHODESIAN CHILDREN ARRIVING IN ZAMBIA (REFTEL), NKOMO SENT A MESSAGE THAT HE AND OYSTEN OPDAHL, UNHCR REP IN LUSAKA, WOULD LIKE TO SEE THE AMBASSADOR ON APRIL 29. THE AMBASSADOR AGAIN EXPLAINED THAT ANY REQUEST SHOULD BE SUBMITTED THROUGH THE UNHCR TO THE U.M.S. MISSION IN GENEVA BUT AGREED WHEN THE ZAPU REP SAID THAT NKOMO STILL WANTED TO DISCUSS THE MATTER WITH US. AT THE MEETING, NKOMO EXPLAINED THAT HIS CONCERN WAS WITH THE CARE AND SCHOOLING OF RHODESIAN CHILDREN UNDER
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THE AGE OF FOURTEEN. THESE WERE ARRIVING IN ZAMBIA BY THE "THOUSANDS". GRZ HAD MADE AVAILABLE TO ZAPU A TRACT OF LAND OUTSIDE LUSAKA WITH A FEW BUILDINGS IN PLACE. THE IMMEDIATE NEED WAS FOR MORE BUILDINGS, TO INCLUDE CLASSROOMS AND DORMITORIES, FOOD, CLOTHING AND FURNISHINGS FOR THE BUILDINGS. THE CAMP WOULD BE CONTROLLED AND OPERATED BY ZAPU.

2. OPDAHL SAID HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT UNHCR WOULD BE WILLING TO COORDINATE ASSISTANCE FOR THE CHILDREN (HE HAD DISCUSSED THE ZAPU REQUEST WITH GENEVA BEFORE THE MEETING WITH NKOMO). THE UK HAD ALREADY MADE AVAILABLE 200,000 POUNDS TO THE UNHCR FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE TO ZAPU. OTHER DONORS COULD BE EXPECTED TO DO LIKEWISE. HE ASKED THAT ZAPU FORMALLY REQUEST THE UNHCR TO COORDINATE ASSISTANCE TO THE CAMP AND MAKE ITS REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE AS PRECISE AS POSSIBLE TO ASSIST UNHCR IN SOLICITING CONTRIBUTIONS FROM DONORS. HE EXPLAINED HE WOULD ALSO REQUIRE THE APPROVAL OF THE GOVERNMENT OF ZAMBIA BUT NEITHER SAW ANY PROBLEM WITH THIS.

3. THE AMBASSADOR REPEATED THAT HE COULD PROMISE NOTHING MORE THAN THAT THE U.S. WOULD BE WILLING TO CONSIDER SPECIFIC REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE TO THE RHODESIAN CHILDREN THROUGH THE UNHCR IN GENEVA.

4. NKOMO SAID HE UNDERSTOOD. HE SEEMED PLEASED WITH THE DISCUSSION AND PROMISED THAT HIS SUBORDINATES WOULD HOLD FURTHER DISCUSSIONS WITH OPDAHL ABOUT THEIR NEEDS.
LOW

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Control Number: n/a
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Sent Date: 29-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: SREF, PFOR, ZA, RH, UNHCR, (NKOMO, JOSHUA)
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